

# Kudos for Volunteers!



Volunteer Dorothy Kimberley separates glasses by their frames. Plastic frames are sent by District 13A Lions to needy persons in foreign countries.



Mr. John Goerlich, Chairman of the Board Toledo Society for the Blind.

**The Toledo Society For The Blind**  
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The Sight Center's broad program of services would be impossible to implement without the time and talents donated by a large corps of dedicated volunteers.

During one recent summer month, 260 hours of volunteer time were donated to such tasks as office work, taping, personal services that included reading newspapers and books and writing checks, driving, board and

committee meetings, large print typing, and recreational activities. An average of 55 volunteers has been on hand each month during the last four-month period to carry out diversified responsibilities.

Space requirements do not permit a listing of names. But we take this opportunity to thank each volunteer who gave of his or her time to be concerned for the visually handicapped.

## Depressed Funds Force Layoffs

Recently, the Sight Center was forced to close its cafeteria and lay off nine staff people. The decision was made by the Board of Trustees as the result of several factors.

First, funds channeled since May to the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission have been drastically reduced, and ORSC has been unable to pay us the total projected cost for our services.

Second, today's automotive-related gas-saving economy has affected the sheltered workshop. The workshop

would like to diversify and is actively seeking other types of work. (See first item under Sign Posts.)

While the Board regrets having to take this action, it believes priorities must be maintained. Direct service providers will remain on staff. Positions eliminated were those in which the duties could be assumed by volunteers, interns, or existing personnel. Several programs of limited scope also have been discontinued at this time.



Jim Huff (right) and his Country Friends provided the entertainment for the June Progressive Club meeting. The group consists of Herschel Brumett on the bass guitar, his son Ed on drums, Dave Moore on hoe down fiddle, and Gary Kuhn on the electric guitar. Jim, who is blind, reports that Dave Moore placed first in a fiddling competition with his own age group at the Wood County Fair, and third in open competition at the Lucas County Fair.

# the SIGHT CENTER

A Service of the Toledo Society for the Blind

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## Parents Group Formed

A support group for parents of blind and visually impaired children has been formed to help parents be aware of resources available to them and to have a direct access to agencies and school systems.

Meetings will be held monthly with the group reconvened after the summer recess on September 17 at 7:30 p.m. at the Sight Center. A bimonthly program with educational films and/or a speaker is being considered with alternate months reserved for informal discussion sessions. The group meets at the Sight Center.

Contact Cathy Ruffer, 241-1183, for further information.

## 1979 Holiday Greeting Cards

The Sight Center offers its annual selection of holiday greeting cards tailored to your individual needs. Card samples appropriate for business, religious, or personal use are enclosed.

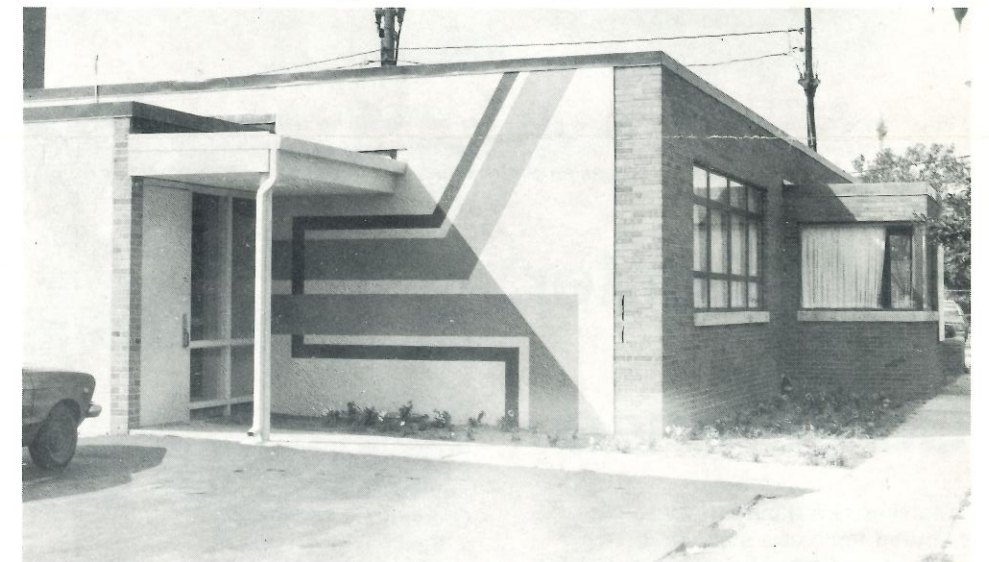
To order, select one or more cards from the samples, complete the enclosed order card, and drop in the mail. Please allow \$4.75 extra per card selection for imprinting if desired.

You will not be billed for your order. Instead, we ask that you make a contribution to the Sight Center. Anything over the amount you normally spend for holiday cards is tax deductible.

Your support helps provide for programs not funded by the United Way.

(A price of \$6.00 per box is suggested.)

## A New Image To Meet Contemporary Needs



Newly renovated facilities at the Sight Center

## the SIGHT CENTER

Have you noticed?

The Toledo Society for the Blind has a new image. Not only does it

boast an expanded name—The Sight Center, A Service of the Toledo Society for the Blind—but it also has newly renovated facilities.

The changes have been made for a number of reasons, according to William A. Marti, president of the Board of Trustees. The name, "The Toledo Society for the Blind," has proved to be restrictive during recent years. The Society is the only center serving the blind and visually impaired

in a 23-county area in northwestern Ohio and southeastern Michigan. Because our name included the word, "Toledo," many visually impaired people living in these areas thought we served only the blind citizens of Toledo. Frankly, with blindness on the increase, we can't afford to have these kinds of misconceptions.

And, too, the word, "Blind," had a negative connotation. Eighty-five per cent of people who are legally blind have some vision. Yet, our name implied to many that our services were rendered only to those who were totally blind.

Our primary goal is to help visually impaired persons attain an independent (CONT. ON PAGE 2.)



Little Chris Stearns learns how to cut a pie at a recent picnic hosted by students of a visually impaired class. The class meets at the Sight Center once a week to learn daily living skills. The students prepared a picnic dinner for their parents. Pictured above is Gayle Krause, rehabilitation teacher, helping Chris.

# Sight Center Interns Hosts Supplement Staff Conference

"Diabetes and Blindness" was the featured topic of a multi-state conference hosted by the Sight Center recently.

Educators, nursing home, hospital, and agency staff persons serving the blind from Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, and Kentucky attended the conference.

The conference addressed the implications for the blind of recent legislative amendments in addition to offering a number of workshops.

Guest speakers included Fred Whitehouse, M.D., chief of metabolics at Ford Hospital in Detroit and president of the American Diabetes Association, and Alan Dinsmore, governmental relations specialist for the American Foundation for the Blind, Washington, D.C.

Rebecca Bechstein is serving an internship at the Sight Center in the social services department. She is a student in social work from Bowling Green State University.

Becky is providing direct services to clients. She assists in the intake process, works with individuals and families who are dealing with the emotional aspects of vision loss and is involved with some group work. Becky, who is visually impaired, works with the aid of her guide dog, Doobie. She plans to receive a bachelor's degree in December.

Jerry Rastrick recently joined the Sight Center as a rehabilitation teacher intern working on his master's degree at University of Northern Illinois at De Kalb. Jerry, who is visually impaired, formerly was an agricultural arts teacher. He will assist Gayle Krause in the rehabilitation process of visually handicapped clients.

## Has Your Will Expired?

Wills do not expire, of course, at least not in the same way drivers' licenses do. Your will can become outdated, however, losing much of its original purpose and effectiveness.

The circumstances which prompted you to write your will the way you did are likely to change over the years. You can "renew" your will by reviewing it from time to time with your attorney, making whatever changes and additions are needed.

You may want to include a provision in your will to help the Sight Center. By including such a bequest, you are making your participation in the work of the Sight Center permanent.

Barry McEwen, the Sight Center's executive director, will be happy to discuss various types of will provisions with you at your convenience.

### A New Image

cont. from page 1

way of living to the fullest degree possible with dignity and self-respect. In other words, we try to teach people with vision loss how to mentally "see" in a sighted world. "Blind," prevented many partially sighted individuals from utilizing our services.

Our newly renovated structure helps to better accommodate expanded and upgraded services and staff. Pleasant working quarters help staff persons to attain primary working goals.

The Sight Center is pleased with its new image. Obviously, to many of our old friends, we will continue to be known as the Toledo Society for the Blind. Our name is a matter of preference. More importantly, we are in a better position to meet the contemporary needs of blind and visually impaired people.

## Eye Facts

Glaucoma, which is present in 9 to 10 per cent of the aging population, is a condition in which the fluid pressure in the eye is too high. The onset of glaucoma may go unnoticed since in its most common form the loss of vision is gradual, beginning with the peripheral vision. If glaucoma is diagnosed and treated early, however, further visual loss can be prevented.

A cataract forms when the lens of the eye changes from a clear, transparent structure to a cloudy or opaque one. Cataracts usually develop gradually causing hazy vision in the earlier stage.

# Blind Children Hunt for Bird-Chirping Eggs



Scott Parker proudly displays his find.

"I found one! Wow—here's another one!" Eleven-year-old Scott Parker was thrilled. He now had two eggs to swap for candy.

For the first time in the Toledo area, last April blind children participated in an Easter egg hunt.

Approximately 25 children scurried about the Dana Corporation grounds searching for the eggs by listening for birdlike chirps. The chirping sounds were battery powered noisemakers that members of the Toledo Council of Telephone Pioneers (an employee service group of the Ohio Bell Telephone Company) inserted into plastic eggs sold with women's pantyhose.

A small transistorized oscillator is wired to a tiny radio speaker. Each chirp lasts about five seconds and repeats itself after about five seconds of silence.

After the egg hunt, parents and children were served a McDonald's lunch inside Dana headquarters.

And what better way is there to end an Easter egg hunt!



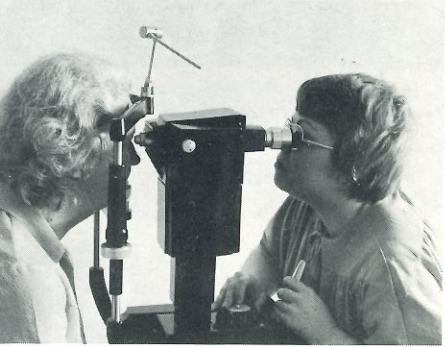
A number of adults helped distribute candy.



The sheltered workshop is actively seeking and willing to give quotes on work. If you need help with packaging, assembling, collating, or light machine work, contact Don Norwood at 241-1183.

The Braille Sports Car Rally is scheduled for Saturday, October 13, at 11 a.m. Volunteer drivers are needed. By reading maps in Braille or large print, blind and visually impaired persons will act as navigators for drivers. To volunteer, call Madge Levinson, 241-1183.

Pre-school eye screening will be held from October 22 through November 2 at the Zucker Center. Approximately 1,000 children are expected to be tested.



Sherry Motz tests Marguerite Schindler's eyes for glaucoma.

Volunteers are needed to work on the Puff-Tonometer machine for glaucoma screening at Southwyck Shopping Mall on October 19 and 20. Training will be provided. Contact Madge Levinson, 241-1183, for more information.